

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A video recorder, comprising:

a processor communicating with memory, ~~the memory storing video data of an event captured by a camera, the video data comprising a series of picture frames;~~

a loop buffer ~~also storing the~~ ~~storing~~ video data of ~~the event~~ ~~an event~~ captured by ~~the camera~~ a camera, the loop buffer storing the video data for a predetermined duration of time, after which the video data is transferred or discarded;

a set of rules stored in the memory, the set of rules ~~determining when to transfer describing an event that causes~~ the contents of the loop buffer to be transferred into the memory;

when the processor determines that the event captured by the camera does not satisfy match the event described by the set of rules, then the processor discards the contents of the loop buffer;

when the processor determines that the event captured by the camera satisfies matches a rule of the event described by the set of rules, then the processor transfers the contents of the loop buffer to the memory to provide time-delayed video data, the time-delayed video data preceding the event captured by the camera that satisfies a rule of matches the event described by the set of rules that causes transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory; and

the processor tags the time-delayed video data with metadata describing the rule the event that caused the contents of the loop buffer to be transferred to the memory.

2. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, wherein the memory comprises a mass-storage device, the mass storage device storing the video data of the event.

3. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, wherein the memory comprises an optical storage device.

4. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, wherein the memory comprises a memory card.

5. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, wherein the memory comprises a flash memory storage device.

6. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, further comprising an interface to a communications network.

7. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, wherein the set of rules specifies vehicular data that causes a transfer of the contents of the loop buffer into the memory devices memory.

8. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, further comprising a switch to transfer the contents of the loop buffer into the memory.

9. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, wherein the loop buffer also stores audio data of the event captured by a microphone.

10. (Original) A video recorder according to claim 1, further comprising an interface with a vehicle controller to transfer the contents of the loop buffer into the memory.

11. (Previously Presented) A video recorder according to claim 1, further comprising:
means for receiving vehicular data describing powertrain management system information, electrical management system information, and chassis management system information; and

means for storing the set of rules specifying the vehicular data that causes the transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory.

12. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
~~storing video data of an event in memory, the video data captured by a camera and comprising a series of picture frames;~~

storing ~~the video~~ video data of ~~the event~~ an event captured by a camera in a loop buffer, the loop buffer storing the video data for a predetermined duration of time, after which the video data is transferred or discarded;

applying a set of rules, ~~indicating when to transfer the contents of the loop buffer to the memory~~ the set of rules describing an event that causes contents of the loop buffer to be transferred into memory;

when the event captured by the camera does not ~~satisfy~~ match the event described by the set of rules, then discarding the contents of the loop buffer;

when the event captured by the camera ~~satisfies a rule of~~ matches the event described by the set of rules, then transferring the contents of the loop buffer to the memory to provide video data that precedes the event captured by the camera that ~~satisfies a rule of~~ matches the event described by the set of rules that causes transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory; and

tagging the preceding video data with metadata describing the ~~rule that~~ event that caused the contents of the loop buffer to be transferred to the memory.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising transferring the contents of the loop buffer to a mass-storage device.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising transferring the contents of the loop buffer to an optical storage device.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising transferring the contents of the loop buffer to a flash memory storage device.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising transferring the contents of the loop buffer via a communications network.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising interfacing with a switch to transfer video data of the event.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising transferring audio data of the event.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 12, further comprising interfacing with a vehicle controller to transfer video data of the event.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 12, further comprising:
receiving vehicular data describing powertrain management system information, electrical management system information, and chassis management system information; and
storing the set of rules specifying the vehicular data that causes the transfer of the contents of the loop buffer to the memory.